

4437/008

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Gringer Et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 09/874,665  
FILING DATE : June 5, 2001  
GROUP ART UNIT : 3724  
EXAMINER : DRUAN, Thomas J..  
TITLE : UTILITY KNIFE WITH QUICK RELEASE HOUSING

*Handwritten notes:*  
#16 / Key for N.E.  
5/19/04  
[Signature]

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL OF AMENDMENT  
AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AFTER FINAL**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in above-identified matter are:

- 1) Amendment and Response to Office Action; (6 pages)

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 07-1730.

I hereby certify that the foregoing documents are being sent via telefax (703) 872-9306 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA on the date below.

05/11/2004 VHART1 00000001 071730 09074665  
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Dated: March 1, 2004

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION AFTER FINAL**

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment and Response to Office Action is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003 and mailed December 30, 2003. Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider the application as amended herein.

**In the claims:**

Kindly amend claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 and as shown in the Claim Amendments section beginning at page 2 of this amendment.

**Remarks:**

A Remarks section appears on page 6 of this amendment.